



THE RICE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
408 Division Street, Northfield, MN 55057

2005 Fall Issue

The Rice County Genealogical Society meets at 2:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday on even months at the Rice County Historical Society Museum, 1814 NW 2nd Avenue, Faribault, and on odd months in the Marston Headley Research Room in the lower level of the Northfield Historical Society Building, 408 Division Street, Northfield. Meetings are suspended during June, July and August. Special meetings may be called for research trips or working on projects.

MEETING DATES:

Sept. 20, 2005
Oct. 18, 2005

Nov. 15, 2005

Dec. 20, 2005

Jan. 17, 2006

Feb. 14, 2006

Mar. 21, 2006

Apr. 18, 2006

May 16, 2006

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due
Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Fall
2005 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.
Election of officers for 2006. Dues for 2006 due.

Faribault: 11:30 Annual Christmas get-together at The
Depot. 2:00 short meeting at the Rice Co. Historical
Society Museum. Final date for 2006 dues to be paid.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting.

Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting.

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due

Faribault: 2:00 regular meeting. Newsletter items due

Northfield: 2:00 regular meeting. Approve the Spring
2005 Newsletter and set date for printing and mailing.

OFFICERS:

President..... Vacant
Vice President..... Audrey DeMann
Secretary-Treasurer..... Dorothy Herkenratt

Dues are for the calendar year and are \$10
for an individual and \$12 for a family.
The newsletter is included with membership

Members currently are actively working on their family lines and in searching out the history of those who came to live in or who passed through Rice County. When we have queries from others not in our family lines who seek help on their research projects, we refer them to one of our current members who is willing to do research for a fee. To secure more information on services she offers and her fee schedule, please contact her directly: Norma Gilbertson, 808 E. 5th St., Northfield, MN 55057 Ph.: 507-664-9591 e.mail: njgilber@rconnect.com

Most Fridays the Marston Headley Research Room will be manned. Please call ahead to schedule research on other days.

DEATH OF RCGS PRESIDENT

It is with profound sadness that we report the death August 1, 2005 of our president, Veronica Grant. The reviewal was held at Bierman Funeral Home in Northfield on August 3rd and her funeral at the Church of the Holy Cross (Episcopal) in Dundas on August 4th. Interment was in Groveland Cemetery in Dundas. We shall miss her.

REPORT ON PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Harriet Berg has indexed the collection of records for both Bridgewater and Forest Townships in Rice County, a project that has taken several months to complete. Copies of the indexed lists have been sent to the townships and will be accessible at the town halls with copies also available for viewing in the Rice County Genealogical Society's reference library in the Marston Headley Research Room in the Northfield Historical Society building. For further information, you may contact her at hgbergmn@tx.netcom.com

An ongoing RCGS project now reaching completion was the copying of five record books belonging to Forest Township. The Northfield Historical Society loaned their copier for the copying of the four smaller books at the Forest Town Hall with the remaining oversized 115-page book to be copied when a large flat-bed copier capable of doing the copying is located. Mrs. Arnie Horesjsi, representing the Forest Town Board, will accompany our group while this book is being copied. It is planned that RCGS will have a copy of the books in their archives available for use by the public with a copy possibly placed for use in the Forest Town Hall, allowing the original records to be archivally preserved by the township. Books copied to date are Book 2 (b. 1900-1905 and d. 1901), Book 3 (b. 1923-1942 and d. 1923-1942), Book 4 (d. 1942-1957--no births were copied due to data privacy issues) and Book 11 (Justice of the Peace Docket 1878-1912).

CREATION OF DUNDAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY A POSSIBILITY

Arlene Williams would like everyone to know that Dundas is in the process of establishing the Dundas Historical Society and that it is planned that a small portion of the old Archibald Mill will be restored to house their collections. Anyone interested in this project should contact her at 116 Forest Avenue South, Lock Box #131, Dundas, MN 55019 or call her at 1-507-645-4856.

Among those contributing old limestone foundation materials for the restoration of that Mill building section are John and June Chester and family of Dundas who are contributing stone from their old racing barn and the machine shed which are being demolished following severe storm damage suffered a few years ago.

CONTACT PERSON FOR CATHOLIC PARISH & CEMETERY RECORDS

For those searching for parish and cemetery records in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, the contact person is Patrick Anzele, Archives Assistant, who presented a discussion at a Dakota County Genealogical Society on the types of records available for genealogists, such as baptismal, birth, confirmation, marriage, death and burial, typically kept by the various parishes in the diocese. Many of these records are now available only through the Archdiocese, and they are well worth researching as many church records, not only the Catholic ones, predate the vital records kept by governmental units. Please note that an appointment is necessary to access these records, and the repository of the Archdiocese is located across from the Cathedral in St. Paul.

"THAT'S NOT MY JOB"

(author unknown)

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Family Group Sheet

Subject:	Johann David Wilhelm Kludt	
Birth:	3 Jun 1796	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Name-Var:	3 Jun 1796	Johan
Name-Var:	1839	David
Marriage:	16 Sep 1825	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Death:	8 Nov 1841	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Burial:	12 Nov 1841	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Father:	Johan Jochim David Kludt (b. 10 Mar 1758, d. 17 Apr 1823)	
Mother:	Trien Maire Dorthie Orthmann (b. 4 Apr 1762, d. 31 Oct 1826)	
Spouse:	Hanna Catharina Maria DOROTHEA Funk	
Name-Var:	7 Jan 1808	Dorothea
Birth:	8 Jan 1808	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Baptism:	11 Jan 1808	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Name-Marr:	16 Sep 1825	Dorothea Kludt
Name-Marr:	30 Nov 1842	Dorothea Beytien
Marriage:	30 Nov 1842	Charles T. Beytien (b. 1819, d. 10 Dec 1888); Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Emigration:	14 Sep 1858	Hamburg, Germany. ³
Immigratn:	5 Oct 1858	Ship Hammonia, New York, New York, USA. ⁴
Death:	23 Aug 1888	Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁵
Burial:		Rolling Green - Albers Cemetery, Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁶
Obituary:	5 Sep 1888	"Mrs. Chas. Beytien, who has been ill for some time, died last week at the advanced age of 83 years." ⁷
Father:	Jochim Christian Funck (, d. 20 Jun 1818)	
Mother:	Catherina Christina Sophia Moltmanns	
Nine Children		
1/F	Christina Maria Dorothea Kludt	
Birth:	11 Sep 1826	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Death:	7 Feb 1827	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Burial:	9 Feb 1827	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
2/F	MARIA Frederica Dorothea Kludt	
Name-Var:		Mary Kluth
Name-Var:	28 Apr 1828	Maria
Birth:	28 Apr 1828	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Baptism:	30 Apr 1828	Evangelical Church, Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Name-Marr:	3 Nov 1862	Mary Demann
Marriage:	3 Nov 1862	William Demann (b. 25 Nov 1830, d. 21 Oct 1916); Millersburg, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁹
Death:	15 Nov 1915	Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County, Minnesota. ¹⁰
Burial:	17 Nov 1915	Lake Pleasant Township, Red Lake County, Minnesota. ¹⁰
3/F	Hanna Christina Dorothea Kludt	
Birth:	12 Jan 1830	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Death:	28 Jan 1830	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Burial:	30 Jan 1830	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
4/M	George HEINRICH Carl Kludt	
Name-Var:	24 Aug 1831	Heinrich/Henry
Birth:	24 Aug 1831	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Baptism:	26 Aug 1831	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Marriage:	17 Jul 1857	Christina Maria Dorothea Rohde (b. , d. 10 Dec 1875); Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Death:	30 Jul 1876	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹¹
Burial:	2 Aug 1876	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹¹
5/F	Hanna Christina WILHELMINA Dorothea Kludt	
Name-Var:	22 Apr 1833	Wilhelmina
Birth:	22 Apr 1833	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Name-Marr:	15 Jan 1862	Wilhelmina Albrecht
Marriage:	15 Jan 1862	J. Louis Albrecht (b. Aug 1826, d.); residence of August Buckner, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁹
Death:	before 1900	
6/F	Maria Friederica DOROTHEA Kludt	
Name-Var:	22 Sep 1834	Dorothea
Birth:	23 Sep 1834	Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Baptism:	25 Sep 1834	Ev. church, Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ⁸
Death:	19 Aug 1855	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Burial:	22 Aug 1855	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²

7/M	Johann JOCHIM Carl Kludt		
	Name-Var:	Joseph Clute	
	Birth:	13 Oct 1837	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Baptism:	15 Oct 1837	Evangelische Kirche, Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Marriage:	16 Oct 1863	Sophia Gronewald (b. 28 Mar 1849, d. 18 Feb 1884); Rice County, Minnesota. ¹²
	Marriage:	23 Sep 1886	Augusta Seidler (b. 13 Jul 1860, d. 2 Aug 1926) ¹³
	Death:	18 Dec 1908	Faribault, Rice County, Minnesota, USA. ¹⁴
	Burial:	19 Dec 1908	Gronewald Cemetery now Berg cemetery, Forest Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ¹⁵
	Probate:	2 Feb 1909	Rice County, Minnesota -USA. ¹⁶
8/M	Johann David Carl Kludt		
	Birth:	8 May 1839	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Baptism:	9 May 1839	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Death:	30 May 1839	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Burial:	2 Jun 1839	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
9/F	CHRISTINE Friederike Elizabeth Kludt		
	Birth:	15 Jan 1841	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
	Name-Marr:	31 Aug 1860	Christine Albers
	Marriage:	31 Aug 1860	Henry Albers; at the home of George Miller, town of Millersburg, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁹
	Death:	20 Apr 1926	Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ¹⁷
	Burial:	23 Apr 1926	Rolling Green Cemetery, Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ¹⁷
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Prepared by:			
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SOURCES: abbreviated (for complete sources contact preparer) FHL = Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah MHS = Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota 1. and 8. Dütchow and Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany: Church Books 1648-1896; FHL film #0069608 and film #0069609 2. and 11. Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany: Church Books 1706-1934; FHL film #69265 and film #69266 3. Hamburg Passenger List departures, vol. 12 Direct List 1858 Mar. - Nov.; FHL film #0470840 p. 593 S.S. Hammonia departs 14 Sep 1858 4. New York Passenger Lists arrival, 3 Oct. 1858 to 23 Oct. 1858; FHL film #175544 S. S. Hammonia arrives 5 Oct. 1858 5. Rice County Death records FHL film #1379343 Item 3-4 6. John Dalby, <i>Rice County, Minnesota Cemetery Listings: Volume 1</i> (Roseville, MN: Park Genealogical Books, 1997) 7. Obit Mrs. Charles Beytien, <i>Faribault Republican</i> 5 September 1888 9. and 12. Rice County, Minnesota marriage records FHL film #1379368 and film #1379342 10., 14., 17. Minnesota death certificates MHS: Marie Demann #1915-MN-01095; Joseph Clute #1908-MN-010838; Christine Albers #1926-MN-012739 13. Pension Record Joseph Clute; National Archives, Washington, D.C. 16. Rice County, Minnesota Probate Court final decrees, MHS film #SAM-243			
The 2 Family Group Sheets for the Kludt/Clute Family and the Family Group Sheet for the Beytien Family show the connections between these two pioneer Rice County families. Hanna Catharina Maria Dorothea Funk first married Johann David Wilhelm Kludt in Dütchow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany on 16 Sep 1825 and they had nine children. She married second Charles T. Beytien 30 Nov 1842 in Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany and they had two children. All eleven children were born in Germany. Christine Friederike Elizabeth Kludt/Clute and both Beytien children emigrated to America with Dorothea and Charles on the Ship Hammonia, leaving Hamburg, Germany 14 Sep 1858 and arriving in New York, NY 5 Oct 1858. On 7 Apr 1862 they purchased 80 acres (N 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 6, Twp. 111, Range 20 W) in Rice County with the warranty deed filed 21 Apr 1862.			

Family Group Sheet - BEYTEN FAMILY

Subject:	Charles T. Beytien	
Name-Var:	_____	Carl Johann Friedrich Boitin
Birth:	_____ 1819	Germany. ¹⁸
Marriage:	30 Nov 1842	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Deed/Land:	7 Apr 1862	Rice County, Minnesota; Charles Beytien bought from Felix and Rebecca Collett of Northfield 80 acres for \$225 describes as the N 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 6 in Twp 111 North of Range 20 West. The warranty deed was filed 21 April 1862. ¹⁹
Death:	10 Dec 1888	Brownston, McLeod County, Minnesota.
Burial:	_____	Rolling Green-Albers Cemetery, Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁶
Father:	Johan Boitin	
Mother:	_____	

Spouse:	Hanna Catharina Maria DOROTHEA Funk	
Name-Var:	7 Jan 1808	Dorothea
Birth:	8 Jan 1808	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Baptism:	11 Jan 1808	Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Name-Marr:	16 Sep 1825	Dorothea Kludt
Marriage:	16 Sep 1825	Johann David Wilhelm Kludt (b. 3 Jun 1796, d. 8 Nov 1841); Dütschow, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ¹
Name-Marr:	30 Nov 1842	Dorothea Beytien
Emigration:	14 Sep 1858	Hamburg, Germany. ³
Immigratn:	5 Oct 1858	Ship Hammonia, New York, New York, USA. ⁴
Death:	23 Aug 1888	Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁵
Burial:	_____	Rolling Green - Albers Cemetery, Bridgewater Township, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁶
Obituary:	5 Sep 1888	"Mrs. Chas. Beytien, who has been ill for some time, died last week at the advanced age of 83 years." ⁷
Father:	Jochim Christian Funk (	d. 20 Jun 1818)
Mother:	Catherina Christina Sophia Moltmanns	

Two Children

1/M	John Frederick Beytien	
Name-Var:	_____	John F. Beytien
Birth:	13 Jul 1844	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Name-Baptm:	14 Jul 1844	Johann Carl Friedrich Boitin
Marriage:	6 Nov 1867	Sophia M. Zander (b. 1847, d. 1 May 1892); Northfield, Minnesota. ²⁰
Marriage:	3 Mar 1895	Elizabeth Tracy Heintz (b. 21 Apr 1871, d. 13 Oct 1956); Brownston, Minnesota. ¹⁸
Death:	18 Feb 1918	Eugene, Oregon. ¹⁸
2/M	Charles F. Beytien	
Birth:	16 Oct 1845	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Name-Baptm:	19 Oct 1845	Jochim Christian Theodor Carl Boitin
Baptism:	19 Oct 1845	Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany. ²
Marriage:	5 Oct 1868	Emma Therese Monhart (foster child FRED. and W. Berg) (b. 5 Oct 1851, d. 1 Jul 1926); at office of Simon Taylor Justice of the Peace, Rice County, Minnesota. ⁹
Death:	15 Apr 1923	at the home of his son Ludwig Beytien, Rice County, Minnesota. ²¹
Burial:	18 Apr 1923	Groveland Cemetery, Rice County, Minnesota.

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Sources; abbreviated

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 MHS = Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, Minnesota

- Dütschow and Spornitz, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany: Church Books 1648-1896; FHL film #0069608
- Klinken, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany: Church Books 1706-1934; FHL film #69265
- Hamburg Passenger List departures, vol. 12 Direct List 1858 Mar. - Nov.; FHL film #0470840 p. 593 S.S. Hammonia departs 14 Sep 1858
- New York Passenger Lists arrival, 3 Oct. 1858 to 23 Oct. 1858; FHL film #175544 S. S. Hammonia arrives 5 Oct. 1858
- Rice County Death records FHL film #1379343 Item 4
- John Dalby, *Rice County, Minnesota Cemetery Listings: Volume 1* (Roseville, MN: Park Genealogical Books, 1997)
- Obit Mrs. Charles Beytien, *Faribault Republican* 5 September 1888
- Rice County, Minnesota marriage records FHL film #1379368
- McLeod County Historical Society, *McLeod County History Book* (Dallas, Texas: Taylor Publishing Co., 1978)
- Rice County, Minnesota Deed Records, Register of Deeds, Faribault; Minnesota
- Obituary Sophia M. Beytien, *Northfield News*, Northfield, Minnesota: 14 May 1892
- Minnesota death certificate MHS: Charles F. Beytien certificate #1923-MN-12966

DO NOT OVERLOOK THOSE OBITUARIES SAVED BY YOUR FAMILY OR THE OBITUARY FILES LOCATED IN LIBRARIES, NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES, GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AS THEY MAY CONTAIN A WEALTH OF INFORMATION TO SUPPLEMENT OR CONFIRM THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE IN YOUR RECORDS.

For an example, the following obituaries for my grandfather gives a good bit of history, but they also contain some inaccuracies as well. For example, the obituary in *The Faribault Daily News* says "His (William F. Chester's) father and mother came with their parents to this county from Racine, Wis., in 1854." when it should have said "came with their children". In none of the obituaries is there mention of his land holdings in Canada, which included one whole section there. Another error to be found in the obituaries says William was one of four children when there actually were five: Job Jeffries, William Frederick, Anne Maria, Edward (Ned) Clarence, and Mary who died young and was buried on the homestead. Only one obituary mentions that William cleared the land in Cannon City and only says "Mr. Chester early in life went into the wood business, in which he was very successful ---"

But at the same time, look how much family history is contained in these obituaries: complete name; birth place and date; to whom, when and where married; date, place and cause of death; places of residence; names of his children and spouses of the married daughters; where children resided at the time of his death; age when he came to Minnesota Territory; living conditions in the area when he arrived with his parents; etc. Many old obituaries also contain a listing of siblings, both living and deceased. If a listing of pallbearers is given, often they will include relatives as well as friends and even where they lived. Sometimes you will find a description of the deceased, including character traits.

So it is necessary to examine all extant obituaries to compare the information given and then to compare what they contain with what you have previously gathered from other sources. If an obituary is your only source of information, use that as a guide for further research to confirm what is given. It may be that an older obituary contains only the name, date of death, possibly the place and little else.

1929 July 12

NORTHFIELD NEWS

Page 1, Columns 2 & 3

WM. F. CHESTER, RESIDENT HERE
FOR SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS, DIES
Family Came to Vicinity When
Only Indians Camped on
Northfield Site.

William F. Chester of Dundas, who has been a resident of this community for seventy-five years, died Tuesday afternoon at his home in Dundas. He had been in poor health for a number of years, altho at the time of his death he was planning to return to the homestead in Cannon City township where he and Mrs. Chester began housekeeping. Death resulted from a heart attack.

Job J. Chester of Dundas, a brother of William F., is now the last survivor of the family of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Job Chester, Sr., who came with their parents to this county from Racine, Wis., in the summer of 1854. Coming by ox team to St. Paul, the family pushed south along an Indian trail, passing thru what is now Northfield and finally settling on a piece of land four miles south of the present city, which at that time boasted not a single house or building. In Dundas there was no sign of habitation. The old homestead has remained in the family's possession since 1854.

Saw Community Grow.

The first winter in this wilderness then inhabited chiefly by Indians, was spent in a rude log house, and the first land was broken the following spring for a crop of wheat, which had to be hauled overland to the mill at Hastings. That year, however, John W. North established his mill in Northfield.

Mr. Chester, whose death closes the life of one of the oldest territorial pioneers in this vicinity, was five years old when the family came to Northfield. He was born November 21, 1848, at Racine, Wis. Growing up in pioneer surroundings, he later acquired considerable land and had large holdings in the vicinity of Dundas.

Funeral Friday.

Mr. Chester's wife was Frances Covert, the daughter of pioneers who settled near Cannon City. She died a number of years ago. Six children survive" Blanche, who has been at home with her father; Edward, who resides near Dundas; Mrs. Arthur Schrader (Charlotte) of this community; Fred Chester, who lives on the farm at Cannon City where his father settled after his marriage; Ralph Chester, living on the original Chester farm on the East Cannon City road; and Mrs. James D. Collison (Olive) of Milbank, S. D.

The funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock at the home in Dundas. The interment will be made in Maple Lawn cemetery, Faribault.

- also see next page -

PIONEERED IN RICE COUNTY

(large two column photo)

WILLIAM FREDERICK CHESTER

William Chester Lived in Rice County 75 Years

Veteran Dundas Resident Who Died Recently Came Here When 5 Years Old.

Pioneer days in Minnesota were recalled here yesterday and today by the death of William Frederick Chester, who had been a resident of this community for 75 years. His father and mother came with their parents to this county from Racine, Wis., in 1854.

Coming by ox team to St. Paul, the family pushed south along an Indian trail, settling on a piece of land two miles east of Dundas, where at that time there was no sign of habitation. The old homestead has remained in the family's possession since 1854. The first winter was spent in a log house and the first land was broken the following spring for a crop of wheat which had to be hauled overland to the mill at Hastings.

Here Lad When Folks Came.

Mr. Chester, whose death closes the life of one of the oldest territorial pioneers in this vicinity, was five years old when the family came here. He was born Nov. 21, 1848. Growing up in pioneer surroundings, he later acquired considerable land holdings in this vicinity.

Mr. Chester was married to Sarah Frances Covert July 3, 1878, at the home of her parents, the Hon. and Mrs. Joseph Covert, pioneer settlers at Cannon City. They made their home on his homestead near Cannon City. Six children were born of this union, all of whom survive.

They include: Blanche, who has lived at home with her father; Edward, who lives near Dundas; Charlotte (Mrs. Arthur Schrader), of this community; Fred, who lives on the farm near Cannon City where his father settled; Ralph, living on the original Chester farm on the east Cannon City road, and Olive (Mrs. James Collison), of Milbank, S. D.

Survivors in County

Job J. Chester of Dundas, a brother of William F., is now the last survivor of the family of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Job Chester, Sr.. There are also 11 grand-children who survive.

Mr. Chester had been in poor health for a number of years before his death Tuesday afternoon, July 9. Death resulted from a heart attack. Funeral services were held from the house at Dundas Friday afternoon, July 12, at 2 o'clock, Rev. Francis L. Palmer of Faribault officiating, assisted by Robert Purrington. Two hymns were sung by Messrs. King, Peterson, Moses and Martin, accompanied by Carl Weicht, all of Northfield. The pallbearers were A. J. Thielbar and Clarence F. Komoll of Dundas, C. G. Kalkes, Joseph McLaughlin, Walter D. Fox and C. W. Mattheis of Cannon City. Interment was made in Maple Lawn cemetery at Faribault.

- also -

William F. Chester.

William F. Chester, pioneer Dundas resident, died Tuesday, July 10, after a few months' illness from heart trouble.

William F. Chester was born in Racine, Wis., Nov. 21, 1848, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Job Chester, Sr., well known and respected citizens of the community. When only five years of age, in 1854, he came to Cannon City with his parents, and he had maintained his legal residence there ever since, although his actual residence for a number of years past was in Dundas.

Mr. Chester was married July 3, 1878, to Frances Covert, who preceded him in death on Feb. 25, 1923. Six children were born to this union, all of whom are living: Blanche, at home; Edward, who farms near Dundas; Mrs. Arthur Schrader (Charlotte), who lives on a farm in Northfield township; Fred, who lives on the home farm in Cannon City, where his father lived at the time of his marriage and where all of the children were born; Ralph, who lives on the original Chester homestead on the East Cannon City road, and Mrs. James D. Collison (Olive) of Milbank, S. D. Mr. Chester leaves also one brother, Job J. Chester of this place.

Mr. Chester early in life went into the wood business, in which he was very successful, due to his physical ability and untiring effort. After the close of the wood business in this community he gave his whole effort to farming, and in this likewise he was exceedingly successful.

The funeral was held at the late home at 2 o'clock Friday. Services were conducted by the Rev. F. L. Palmer of Faribault, assisted by the Rev. Purrington, and music was rendered by the Northfield Male quartet consisting of M. D. Martin, Mr. Peterson, R. H. Moses, and W. H. King. Mr. Weicht accompanied them on the piano.

The pallbearers were C. Komoll and A. J. Thielbar of Dundas; G. A. Kalkes, Jos. McLaughlin, W. D. Fox, and C. W. Mattheis of Cannon City. Interment was made in Maple Lawn cemetery at Faribault.

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Collison and sons James and Roderick of Milbank, S. D., arrived Thursday morning for the funeral.

Mr. Chester was a highly respected citizen of Dundas, and will be greatly missed by his relatives and many friends.

RICE GLEANINGS

From The Rice County Genealogical Society

SOME DRAKE FAMILY HISTORY

Previously I wrote concerning the importance of saving old family letters. Unfortunately, future historians and genealogists, because of modern technology including cell phones and e-mail, will no longer have this treasure trove of written information to draw upon. It is therefore important that we record not only the information which has been handed down to us, but to compile a written record of what is happening in our families now. I am in the process of compiling past information and stories on my husband's and my families so that our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will have a sense of from where our families have come and what they accomplished to give them a foundation on which to chart their goals and place in the scheme of things.

This time I shall expand on some of the Drake family history which was spoken of briefly in Save Those Old Family Letters. I will first give some background on the Drake line from which my husband Richard Herkenratt descends before continuing on the importance of the family in the history of Rice County's early settlement. This will, of course, be an abbreviated history.

The first Drake in Richard's line to come to America was Joseph, the son of Bampfylde Drake who was the Rector of Farway, England. He shipped from Plymouth, England as a 9-year old stowaway hoping to join Bampfylde and Francis, two of his brothers who had settled in Virginia. However, he landed at New Amsterdam where he later became a famous jockey in the racing stables of Thomas Bryant. Later in life he became deeply religious and abandoned his wild ways. This Joseph (b. 10 June 1717) was the first person to be listed in the Drake Family Bible which records early family information. A story which has come down in the family states that during the Revolutionary War the Drakes were in the habit of reading a few lines from this Bible at each meal and that one day as the Bible lay open on the table during dinner, a band of British soldiers came in on a foraging expedition. A servant, hearing the soldiers coming, hurriedly took the meat from the table and hid it in the basement. The soldiers peered into the iron kettles hanging at the open fire, and, finding no meat but "eyes on the broth", were so angered that one drew his sword and with one blow cut the Bible in half. It is interesting to note that this Joseph Drake held a commission as captain from King George, but the story would appear to be correct as the Bible obviously was cut in half at some point in its history. Family heirlooms now lost are the original 1772 document signed by King George III commissioning Joseph Drake captain of the East Chester company of militia at Troy, New York and a small painting of the Golden Hind, the vessel in which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe in the years 1577-1580. In the 1920's these items were still in the possession of Arthur Drake in Northfield.

The first Drake to come to MN was Edwin Sumner Drake who was born 17 Aug. 1828 near Sandusky, Erie Co., OH to Joseph (above) and Ruth Bon Drake of East Chester, NY. who by then had moved to OH. The family then moved to a farm between Racine and Milwaukee, WI where Edwin Sumner Drake met and married Martha Clark (a twin born 11 Aug. 1831), the daughter of John Turner and Rebecca Rogers Clark. Edwin and Martha moved to Chillicothe, MO where their eldest son, Arthur, was born, but in the early spring of 1854 they moved to a homestead in the Root River valley in Houston Co., MN where after only six weeks Edwin sold out and the family went back to Wallworth Co., WI where they remained until the spring of 1855 when Edwin again set out for MN where he took a homestead and built a log cabin in Sec. 26, Bridgewater Twp., about four and a half miles south of what later became Northfield. This was on the old stage road from Faribault and his land joined Job Chester's to the east and Dr. John L. Schofield's to the north. Edwin's family had just settled into their new home when it was destroyed by a tornado on the night of 17 May, 1855 while the family was inside the log cabin. The family history states that while Edwin was trying to close the door and Martha and little Arthur were still in bed, the storm lifted the house off its base. Martha and Arthur were saved by the canvas used for a partition which had fallen over them. Martha with her teeth tore a hole in the canvas and escaped unharmed, but Edwin had been dazed by a flying log which grazed his head. The log house, which was rebuilt, was at the edge of the forest, and for many years after the tornado an eight rod swath cut by the tornado could be seen in the forest to the west. It was at this location that Edwin also conducted a wayhouse for travelers and where the stages could change horses during their

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HELP WANTED

All members are encouraged to place queries with the RCGS. There is no charge and no limit to the numbers of queries per year. They will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received. Please type, print or write clearly. Words should be written in full to minimize errors. We may at our discretion use some abbreviations. Non-members will be charged a fee of \$5 per entry. In addition, we will print group sheets, ancestor charts, pedigree or Ahnentafel (European) charts, and descendant charts for people with Rice County connections - free for members, \$2 per sheet for non-members or we will print one free in connection with a non-member query submission. Again, they will be printed as space permits and as soon as possible after they are received.

#1-2005 Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault, MN 55021
Dorothy is seeking information on JACOB HERKENRATH b. ca 1820 in Neunkirchen/Herkenrath village, Germany, d. 6/7 Jan. 1873 in Otter Tail Co., MN blizzard. Where did he die in Otter Tail Co.? Where is he buried? Was he visiting his Niebel relatives near/in Fergus Falls or looking for land? Any information will be very much appreciated as I have hit that well-known "brick wall."

#2-2005 Eileen Spitzack, 2403 NW 2nd Ave., P. O. Box 271, Faribault, MN 55021 and
Arlene Williams, 116 Forest Ave. So., Lock Box #131, Dundas, MN 55019
Eileen and Arlene would like to locate and/or receive information on ARNOLD HATFIELD, son of Joseph (Joe) Hatfield from Rice County and Louise Frederica Thielbar Hatfield b. 1 Jan. 1855 in Dundas, Rice Co., MN. The family moved to Duluth, MN and "lived on the hill above the water". Any information would help fill in the missing link in the descendants of the Joe and Louise Hatfield family. Eileen is a daughter of Les(lie) E. and Vivian Herkenratt Thielbar and Arlene a granddaughter. Les Thielbar was a brother of Louise Frederica Thielbar Hatfield. Would be glad to exchange information on Les(lie) E. and the other children in the Albert Joseph and Martha DeMann Thielbar family: Clifford A., Paul A., Lunetta M. (Mrs. Neil Hannon), Walter S., Florence A. (Mrs. Verne Canedy), Maybelle (Mrs. George Austin, 2nd husband Robert Olson) and Pearl J. (Mrs. Walter Kiviatkoski).

NOTICE: When members have a news item, query, list of lines being searched, or any other notice of interest to the general membership, please give or send the item to Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, 2405 NW 2nd Ave., Faribault 55021 so that it can be included in the Newsletter.

MINNESOTA BIRTH INDEX ONLINE

(contributed by Audrey DeMann)

Birth certificates filed in Minnesota between 1900 and 1907 can now be ordered online. The searchable data base is a collaborative endeavor of the MN Department of Health and the MN Historical Society. Eventually, the website will include birth certificates through 1934, approximately 1.8 million records. Non-certified copies may be reproduced from the website or certified copies may be ordered online. In compliance with the Data Practices Act, some records--including out-of-wedlock births--will not be included until 90 years have elapsed. For more information, visit their website at

<<http://people.mnhs.org/bcir/>>

SOME DRAKE FAMILY HISTORY

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journey. He also conducted a post office here called the Chester Post Office, although the Chester holdings were across the road to the east. Edwin remained on this homestead until 1863 when he bought the farm, now designated The E. S. Drake Farm on the National Register of Historic Places, from his mother, Ruth Bon Drake, then a widow. He remained on this farm until 1882 when he moved to Cascade where he was an owner in the Cascade Mill, but after two years in the milling business, he sold out and again moved back to the E. S. Drake farm where he remained until he moved to Northfield in 1895. Both Edwin who died 29 Apr. 1909 and Martha who died 7 Oct. 1910 in Northfield are buried in the Northfield Cemetery which was donated by the Drake family to the city.

TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE

Dorothy Chester Herkenratt, Secretary-Treasurer

Rice County Genealogical Society
408 Division Street
Northfield, MN 55057

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